

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1708

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TAGS: ILO, ELAB, PE

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ILO ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 203991, STATE 206217, 75 LIMA A-197

SUMMARY: THIS CABLE TRANSMITS INFORMATION ON THE ILO LIMA OFFICE AND ITS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES. THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE ILO REGIONAL OFFICE TO THE INTER-AMERICAN LABOR CENTER (CIAT) IS NOTED. RECENTLY CONCLUDED AS WELL AS ONGOING ILO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS ARE BRIEFLY DESCRIBED AND COMMENTED UPON ACCORDING TO THE FORMAT SUGGESTED IN STATE 203991. END SUMMARY.

1. ILO REGIONAL OFFICE AND CIAT

THE ILO LIMA OFFICE MIGHT BE DESCRIBED ADMINISTRATIVELY AS A SEMI-AUTONOMOUS PLANET REVOLVING AROUND THE GENEVA SUN AND ALWAYS DEPENDING ON GENEVA FOR FINANCIAL WARMTH. LINKED TO THE LIMA OFFICE AS DISTINCT MOONS TO THE PLANET ARE THE SANTIAGO, MONTEVIDEO AND PORT OF SPAIN OFFICES RESPONSIBLE FOR REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN EMPLOYMENT POLICY, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND COOPERATIVES. OFFICES IN BUENOS AIRES, RIO DE JANEIRO, MEXICO CITY, SAN JOSE, PORT-AU-PRINCE AND SANTO DOMINGO ALSO DEPEND ON THE LIMA OFFICE WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF MAXIMUM FEASIBLE

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ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION.

2. THE LIMA REGIONAL DIRECTOR, A.I. CARLOS D'UGARD, TOLD LABATT THAT LIMA BACKSTOPS THE REGIONAL EXPERTS RESIDENT IN SANTIAGO, MONTEVIDEO AND PORT OF SPAIN THROUGH PROVISION OF SUPERVISORY SUPPORT. THE LIMA OFFICE ALSO OFFERS SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL AID TO BUTTRESS SPECIFIC REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN EMPLOYMENT POLICY, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND COOPERATIVES. ACCORDING TO D'UGARD, ILO PROJECTS (FOR EXAMPLE, THE NOW COMPLETED EMPLOYMENT POLICY PROJECT WITH THE GOP LABOR MINISTRY) ARE EXECUTED FROM THE SPECIALIZED REGIONAL OFFICES. IN THE CASE OF EMPLOYMENT POLICY PROJECTS, THE EXPERTS RESIDENT IN SANTIAGO ARE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAMS (STATE 206217, PARA 4) WITH LIMA OFFERING SUPPORT.

3. THE INTER-AMERICAN LABOR ADMINISTRATION CENTER (CIAT) IS LOCATED IN LIMA. THE LIMA ILO REGIONAL OFFICE OFFERS ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CIAT. ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL PROJECTS IS ALSO EXTENDED BY THE LIMA REGIONAL OFFICE.

4. STATE 206217 NOTES THAT THE ILO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR LATIN AMERICA HAS FIVE EXPERTS AND THREE ASSOCIATE EXPERTS IN LABOR ADMINISTRATION. EXPERTS IN LABOR ADMINISTRATION ARE NORMALLY ASSIGNED TO THE CIAT, WHICH IS CHARGED WITH PROVIDING EXPERTISE IN LABOR ADMINISTRATION, AND NOT TO THE ILO REGIONAL OFFICE. THE CIAT STAFF CURRENTLY CONSISTS OF ONE EXPERT AND ONE ASSOCIATE EXPERT IN LABOR ADMINISTRATION, ONE EXPERT IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, ONE EXPERT IN LABOR ECONOMICS (CIAT DIRECTOR JORGE DIFRIERI), ONE EXPERT IN LABOR INSPECTION AND ONE EXPERT IN STATISTICS. THE ILO REGIONAL OFFICE CONSISTS OF A REGIONAL DIRECTOR AND A DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS HEADING UP A STAFF OF 30. THERE ARE FOUR REGIONAL EXPERTS (IN PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, REGIONAL LEGISLATION AND LABOR RELATIONS, MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY, AND RURAL COOPERATIVES) AND TWO ASSOCIATES. THE REST OF THE STAFF PROVIDES ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND CLERICAL AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES.

5. PROJECTS

ALL BUT ONE OF THE ILO LIMA PROJECTS HAVE NOW BEEN TERMINATED. ACCORDING TO REGIONAL DIRECTOR D'UGARD, PROJECTS TERMINATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BECAUSE THE WORK WAS COMPLETED, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL BUDGET CUTS IN 1975 HAD A DELETERIOUS EFFECT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PROJECTS AND IN SOME CASES HINDERED THE COMPLETION OF OLD PROJECTS. THE EMPLOYMENT POLICY PROJECT CARRIED OUT WITH THE MINISTRY OF LABOR HAS BEEN COMPLETED, BUT THE ILO LIMA CONSIDERS EMPLOYMENT POLICY TO BE OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE AND WILL PRESS FOR ONGOING ILO EMPLOYMENT POLICY PROJECTS WITH THE GOP LABOR MINISTRY. THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROJECT HAS ALSO BEEN

TERMINATED.

6. A PROJECT CARRIED OUT WITH THE CONTROVERSIAL GOP SOCIAL MOBILIZATION AGENCY (SINAMOS) HAS ALSO BEEN COMPLETED. THE ILO CONSIDERS THE PROJECT ITSELF (EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR A SINAMOS RESEARCH CENTER) TO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL BUT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT AS SINAMOS FORTUNES DECLINED IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE LOSS OF INFLUENCE OF PERUVIAN REVOLUTIONARY RADICALS THE ILO PROJECT WAS ADVERSELY AFFECTED. THE ILO HAD PROVIDED A LIBRARY, PRINTING PRESS (WHICH TURNED OUT OFTEN CONTROVERSIAL POLITICAL TRACTS), AND A LABORATORY FOR PRODUCING VIDEO TAPES. SINAMOS HAS BEEN FORCED TO LOWER ITS PROFILE UNDER THE MORALES BERMUDEZ REGIME AND ILO OFFICIALS ADMIT THAT THE ILO FINANCE CENTER IS ACCORDINGLY UNDER-UTILIZED. THE SINAMOS PROJECT COST \$1,350,000 FOR THE 1971-76 PERIOD, ACCORDING TO THE ILO.

7. THE ONLY ILO PROJECT CURRENTLY OPERATING IS THE TRAINING CENTER FOR MINERS IN RECUAY, ANCASH. THERE IS ONE INTERNATIONAL EXPERT ASSIGNED TO THE TRAINING CENTER AT THE RECUAY SCHOOL OF MINES. THIS PROJECT IS BUDGETED FOR \$150,000 IN 1977 AND THE SAME AMOUNT FOR 1978.

8. ILO REGIONAL DIRECTOR D'UGARD TOLD LABATT THAT A PROMISING FUTURE PROJECT MAY BE IN COOPERATION WITH A SOCIAL PROPERTY (WORKER-OWNED AND OPERATED FIRMS) TRAINING CENTER WHICH WOULD TRAIN WORKERS TO MANAGE THEIR OWN ENTERPRISES. ILO INPUT WOULD AMOUNT TO ABOUT \$80,000 FOR A RESEARCH STUDY. SOCIAL PROPERTY IS HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL AND, SINCE THE JULY 1976 GOVERNMENT SHAKEUP IN WHICH MORE RADICAL CABINET MEMBERS WERE REMOVED, SOCIAL PROPERTY HAS BEEN DE-EMPHASIZED. THEREFORE, A SOCIAL PROPERTY PROJECT MIGHT CONTAIN SOME OF THE SAME DISADVANTAGES THE ILO ENCOUNTERED IN ITS SINAMOS PROJECT.

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ACTION ARA-10

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9. THE SUGGESTED FORMAT OF STATE 203991 PARA 5 IS QUITE SPECIFIC AND IN THE ABSENCE OF DETAILED INSPECTION ONLY THE ILO, AND IN SOME CASES CIAT, HAVE THE ANSWERS. ILO RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES CANNOT BE CONSIDERED TO REPRESENT A CRITICAL EVALUATION. HOWEVER, ILO COMMENT ON AND WHERE POSSIBLE EMBASSY EVALUATION OF INQUIRIES ALONG LINES OF THOSE IN THE ABOVE CITED REFTEL, FOLLOW IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER USED IN THE REFTEL. COMMENTS, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, REFER TO THE ENTIRE PROGRAM AND NOT TO INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS.

A. OBJECTIVES ARE SKILLS TRAINING, FORMULATION OF EMPLOYMENT POLICIES, DESIGNATION OF INFORMATION ON COOPERATIVES AND IN OTHER AREAS, AND THE PREPARATION OF PERSONS CAPABLE OF DISSEMINATING INFORMATION. OBJECTIVES ARE FOR THE MOST PART APPROPRIATE TO PERU'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

B. NO. THE ILO IS TRIPARTITE, BUT PROJECT NEGOTIATION OR IMPLEMENTATION (IN MOST LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AT LEAST) IS CARRIED OUT BY MEANS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION TO GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATION. RECIPIENT GOVERNMENTS DO NOT NORMALLY SEEK WORKER OR EMPLOYER INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION. HOWEVER, THE ILO REGIONAL OFFICE AND THE CIAT DO SERVICE WORKER AND EMPLOYER ORGANIZATIONS AND DO PARTICIPATE IN SEMINARS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

C. THE ILO CLAIMS THAT PROJECTS BEGAN ON TIME.
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D. YES, ACCORDING TO THE ILO. CIAT HAS NO FIGURES.

E. IN THE SINAMOS PROJECT, TRAINEES CONTINUE AT THE TRAINING CENTER WHICH HAS BEEN TURNED OVER TO SINAMOS. THE RECUAY MINE PROJECT IS SAID TO INVOLVE JOB PLACEMENT AND FOLLOW-UP, ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCLEAR WHERE THE ILO RESPONSIBILITY ENDS AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE RESPONSIBILITY BEGINS.

F. THERE IS NO DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE NUMBER OF ILO PERSONNEL SPECIFIED AND THE NUMBER ON SITE SINCE MOST PROJECTS WERE IN LIMA AND EXPERTS WERE AVAILABLE.

G. NO DISCREPANCIES IN BUILDING OR EQUIPMENT PROVISION.

1) NO BUILDINGS WERE INVOLVED EXCEPT FOR THE ILO REGIONAL OFFICE WHICH IS THE REMODELED LIMA HOME OF A PERUVIAN OLIGARCH.

2) THE ILO SAYS YES, NOTING HOWEVER THAT 1975 BUDGET CUTS AFFECTED EQUIPMENT ARRIVAL. THE EQUIPMENT WAS APPROPRIATE ACCORDING TO THE ILO. MOST EQUIPMENT WAS FOR THE SINAMOS CENTER (PRINTING PRESS, VIDEO TAPE EQUIPMENT, ETC.). THE END-USE WAS SOMETIMES POLITICALLY CONTROVERSIAL.

H. CIAT AND ILO LIMA SAY PROJECTS WERE ADEQUATELY BACKSTOPPED.

I. NO FIGURES WERE GIVEN, BUT THE ILO SAYS THAT THE 1975 CUT IN UNDP FUNDS AFFECTED BOTH EXPERTS AND EQUIPMENT. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES WERE DELAYED.

J. FELLOWSHIPS WERE OFFERED BY CIAT ONLY.

K. BOTH CIAT AND ILO CLAIM THAT PERSONNEL POSSESS QUALIFICATIONS.

L. WITHOUT MONITORING INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS, THE EMBASSY IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE AN IN-DEPTH PROJECT EVALUATION. CIAT APPEARS TO BE ENGAGED IN USEFUL WORK AND THE GOP LABOR MINISTRY REQUESTED RENEWAL OF CIAT RELATIONSHIP UPON ITS EXPIRATION. CIAT WORKS WITH THE EMPLOYERS AND LABOR CONFEDERATIONS. IT AIDS LABOR MINISTRIES IN PERU AND ELSEWHERE IN LABOR ADMINIS-
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TRATION. AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, THE FATE OF THE ILO SINAMOS PROJECT IS TIED TO THE FATE OF THAT CONTROVERSIAL ORGANIZATION. ITS FORTUNE DECLINED AS THE POWER OF REVOLUTIONARY MILITANTS AND LEFTIST IDEOLOGUES FADED. THEREFORE THE ILO SINAMOS CENTER MAY BE UNDERUTILIZED. THE EMPLOYMENT POLICY PROJECT IS POTENTIALLY THE MOST IMPORTANT IF SOUND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGIES ARE THEN INCORPORATED INTO THE NATION'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PLANS AND PROGRAMS. THE RECUAY MINE SCHOOL PROJECT IS TO PROVIDE NEEDED EXPERTISE AND SKILLS IN THE MINES. IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY IS TOP GOP PRIORITY. THE PROJECT IS WORTHWHILE. THE EMBASSY HAS NO READING ON ITS SUCCESS INsofar AS TRAINEES OR QUALITY OF TRAINING ARE CONCERNED. THE UPCOMING SOCIAL PROPERTY PROJECT WILL SUPPORT AN INNOVATIVE BUT POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY UNCERTAIN EFFORT TO PRODUCE WORKER/MANAGERS.
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